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House Resolution 513

By: Representative Stanley-Turner of the 53rd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Urging Congress to enact legislation establishing a national alert system for missing adults
- 2 who suffer from Alzheimer's disease, Autism, dementia, and other cognitive and mental
- 3 impairments; and for other purposes.
- 4 WHEREAS, Levi's Call, Georgia's implementation of the "Amber Alert" program, was
- 5 established in January, 2002, as a voluntary partnership between law enforcement,
- 6 emergency management, and broadcasters to activate an urgent bulletin in child abduction
- 7 cases; and
- 8 WHEREAS, recognizing the need for a similar program to address the tragedy and
- 9 heartbreak involved in the disappearance of mentally disabled adults and spurred by the
- 10 disappearance of Mrs. Mattie Moore, a 67 year-old woman who suffered from Alzheimer's
- disease, in June, 2004, the City of Atlanta enacted an ordinance to create the Mattie Call
- 12 program for Atlanta; and
- WHEREAS, by increasing the public's awareness of the unique challenges faced by this
- special population and providing a quick and effective means of disseminating information
- 15 to the general public in the event of a disappearance, this program is helping to avert future
- tragedies like that suffered by Mrs. Moore, who was last sighted in a neighborhood just three
- 17 miles from her home but whose residents were not aware of her condition; and
- 18 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is taking steps to incorporate a Mattie Call system in
- 19 communities across the state, creating a state-wide network that coordinates and facilitates
- 20 the efforts of law enforcement, media, civic groups, local businesses, and caregivers when
- a loved one goes missing; and
- WHEREAS, over five million people in the United States have Alzheimer's disease, and that
- 23 number is expected to triple by 2050 as the nation's population ages; and

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1 WHEREAS, well over 50 percent of these people will wander and become lost, an incident

- 2 which always represents a critical emergency; and
- 3 WHEREAS, creating a national alert system for missing adults who suffer from Alzheimer's
- 4 disease, Autism, dementia, and other cognitive and mental impairments would greatly
- 5 increase the safety of these individuals and provide greater peace of mind to their families
- 6 and caregivers.
- 7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
- 8 the members of this body urge Congress to consider legislation establishing a national alert
- 9 system for missing disabled adults similar to the "PROTECT Act of 2003."
- 10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
- and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to each member of the Georgia
- 12 Congressional Delegation.